

REMARKS

The applicant thanks the examiner for acknowledging applicants' claim for foreign priority and reception of the certified copy of the foreign priority document that was submitted on 30 October 2003. The applicant also thanks the examiner for having returned an initialed copy of the PTO 1449 that was submitted on 30 October 2003.

Claims 1 – 20 are pending. Claims 4 – 20 have been allowed. The applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of this application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 1 – 3 have been objected to due to informalities. Particularly, the examiner has asserted that the recitation of the receiver circuit receiving the trapezoidal wave signal should be clarified to distinguish it from the trapezoidal wave signal delivered by the driver circuit. The applicant thanks the examiner for having noticed this cosmetic defect in the claim.

The examiner has suggested that the recitation at issue be changed to “a trapezoidal wave signal” because pgs. 17 – 18 of the specification state that the receiver circuit 22 receives “asynchronous serial communication data.” However, the applicant is concerned that such an amendment will still not clearly distinguish the trapezoidal wave signal received by the receiver circuit from the trapezoidal wave signal delivered by the drive circuit. Therefore, the applicant has amended claim 1 to recite “a receiver circuit for receiving another trapezoidal wave signal.”

The examiner has also suggested that the recitation of “the LIN bus” in claim 1 be changed to recite “the communication line.” The applicant thanks the examiner for pointing out this cosmetic defect. The applicant has amended claim 1 to adopt the Examiner's suggestion.

The applicant also amended claim 1 to recite a waveform shaping circuit for shaping the another trapezoidal wave signal in order to be consistent with the above amendment and to correct a typographical error.

Therefore, because claim 1 has been amended to correct the informalities pointed out by the examiner, it is respectfully requested that the objection to claims 1 – 3 be withdrawn.


The applicant has also amended claims 7 and 11 to correct typographical errors.

Claim 1 was amended to correct the cosmetic defects noted by the Examiner, and claims 7 and 11 were amended to correct typographical errors. Therefore, the amendments to claims 1, 7 and 11 have not narrowed the scope of these claims within the meaning defined in Festo Corp. v. Shoketsu Kinzoku Kogyo Kabushiki Co., 535 U.S. 722 (2002).

In view of the foregoing, applicant submits that this application is in condition for allowance. A timely notice to that effect is respectfully requested. If questions relating to patentability remain, the examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone.

If there are any problems with the payment of fees, please charge any underpayments and credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 50-1147.

Respectfully submitted,


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